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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 000166

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/23/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ES](#) [KCRM](#) [KJUS](#)

SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR REQUESTS EXTRADITION OF ROBERTO CARLOS SILVA

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[¶1.](#) (SBU) The Embassy received a request on November 28, 2007 for the extradition of Roberto Carlos Silva Pereira, an alternate deputy to the Legislative Assembly, on charges of bribery and money laundering. Silva was the subject of deportation procedures in the United States at the time the request for extradition was received.

[¶2.](#) (C) On November 30, 2007, Regional Department of Justice Attache (JUDATT) met with Elizabeth Villalta, Legal Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). JUDATT noted that the Embassy would need time to study the extradition request and its impact on the Silva,s ongoing deportation proceedings. JUDATT said that the study of the extradition request could last until the conclusion of Silva,s deportation proceedings, and that the Embassy,s study would not in any way prejudice a request for provisional arrest made under the bilateral extradition treaty. Villalta expressed gratitude for the study and the effect it would have on maintaining the pace of the deportation proceedings.

[¶3.](#) (SBU) On February 10, 2009 the Embassy received information indicating that another country was about to seek the Silva,s extradition. El Salvador,s request was then forwarded to the Department of State on February 11, 2009. Media reported over the February 21-22 weekend that Silva was wanted in Guatemala in connection with a murder case.

[¶4.](#) (C) Comment: Silva's extradition is a high profile issue in El Salvador. The GOES has been willing to pursue deportation as a faster way to secure his return from the U.S. However, the appearance of another, competing extradition request has foreclosed that option.
BLAU